

Please replace the Abstract of the Disclosure (page 28) with:

AS
A coast control device for a walkie/rider pallet truck locks the position of a steering arm of the truck to prevent movement by a deadman mechanism. The disclosed locking device is a brake: an armature plate mounted to the steering arm; and an electromagnet coupled to a steering head that is operated to activate coasting operation. The brake force can be overcome by an operator to manually apply the truck brake or to reposition the steering arm to a new position where it is again locked. For controlling coasting operation, the brake is manually engaged by an actuator mounted adjacent to or on a grab bar that is to be gripped by an operator riding on the truck. With the actuator so located, coasting operation can be conveniently engaged while the operator is walking beside the truck.

IN THE CLAIMS

A4
6. (Amended) A walkie/rider pallet truck as claimed in claim 2 wherein said at least two selectable positions comprise substantially any position within said driving arc.

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22. (Amended) A walkie/rider pallet truck as claimed in claim 21 wherein said actuator comprises at least one coast actuation switch for activating said coast control mechanism.

A8
27. (Amended) A method for controlling a walkie/rider pallet truck as claimed in claim 26 wherein said step of selectively locking said steering arm into a desired position comprises generating a locking force to maintain said desired position and said